

11 ~~8.~~ (Amended) In a computer system having a control switch which is one of a rocker switch or dial switch and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to the control switch for a predefined period in which the control switch maintains a current switch state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the control switch.

12 ~~7.~~ (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

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detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identifying at least one of track name, track time remaining, track length, album title and album length in a multimedia application.

14 ~~9.~~ (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

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displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information relating to a game.

15 ~~10.~~ (Amended) In a computer system having a first auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the first auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the first auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the first auxiliary control; and

changing the status information in the display widget responsive to a second auxiliary control other than the first auxiliary control.

16 11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10¹⁵, wherein the first auxiliary control is a headset or a microphone.

12. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identifying currently running applications.

18 13. (Amended) The method according to claim 12¹⁷, further comprising the step of placing an identified application in the foreground of the display screen, responsive to a user's selection of the application using the auxiliary control.

19 14. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information including a task bar.

6 15. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:
detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a second predefined period while displaying the display widget; and
discontinuing display of the display widget, responsive to detecting the absence of the physical presence.

20 16. (Amended) In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

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cmdd detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current control state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is one of a joystick or a wheel.

7 18. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the auxiliary control is one of a button or a key.

a3 19. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the physical presence is a hand of a user.

21 21. (Amended) In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

a4 detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a first predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current control state;

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control;

detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a second predefined period while displaying the display widget;

determining if a pointer is located within the display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting; and

discontinuing display of the display widget when the pointer is not located within the display widget.

22 26. (Amended) In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

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cm7 detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identified only applying to a single active application.

23 27. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a first application is active is different from the type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a second application is active.

24 28. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information is messaging related information.

26 30. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein when a web browser is an active application, the status information includes at least one of the most recently used searches, at least one of the most recently obtained search results, identification of

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cancel previous and next web pages which may be visited, list of favorite web pages, and current page loading information.

27 33. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information provides printer status information.

28 34. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

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cm+ detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies contents of a clipboard.

29 35. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies at least one of time, date, location, file type and size of most recently saved file.

30 36. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is a key representing a mathematical operator, and in a spreadsheet application, the status information identifies the result if the mathematical operator is applied to data in a spreadsheet.

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could 37. (Amended) In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is configured to control scrolling of the display screen, the status information identifying settings for the wheel.

32 40. (Amended) In a computer system having an input device and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

a8 detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the input device for a first predefined period in which the input device maintains a current control state; and

causing information displayed on the display screen to disappear responsive to said step of detecting.

Please add the following new claims:

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cont 48. (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the first display widget and the second display widget are different.